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SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" Sir, was it merely a sight-seeing tour or was the tour undertaken with the object of promoting friendliness among Commonwealth countries? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" It is really to promote proper understanding among the various countries that Prime Ministers, Ambassadors and others visited Madras."

Construction of a bridge at Alevoor and Naniltar in South Kanara.

* 619 *Q.*—SRI T. ANANTA PAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the District Board, South Kanara, has recommended the construction of a bridge at (1) Alevoor and (2) Naniltar in South Kanara; and

(*b*) the decisions arrived at by the Government on the above recommendations?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASWAMI PADAYACHI :—" (*a*) & (*b*) Yes, Sir. The question of including the bridge works in the Central Road Fund Programme is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI T. ANANTA PAI :—" Sir, in view of the fact that both these bridges are important ones, may I request the Government whether as soon as orders are received from the Government of India, they will be taken up for construction? "

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASWAMI PADAYACHI :—" Certainly, we will consider that, Sir."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Sir, when will the question be taken up for consideration and when is it expected to close? "

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASWAMI PADAYACHI :—" As soon as orders are received from the Government of India, Sir."

Village co-operative credit societies.

* 620 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of village co-operative credit societies in the State and the number in Malabar;

(*b*) whether the Government have reduced the maximum period allowed to the member-debtors of the societies to repay their loans, and if so, why;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that village co-operative credit societies will be recognized only after collecting an initial capital of Rs. 1,000 and whether the District Co-operative Bank, Malabar, has represented to the Government not to enforce this; and

(*d*) what action the Government have taken in the matter?

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) Ten thousand one hundred and fifty-one and 479.

" (b) No, Sir.

" (c) Yes, Sir.

" (d) The Deputy Registrar, Malabar (South), had been instructed by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies to inform the Bank that the collection of initial share-capital of Rs. 1,000 would be insisted on only in cases where activities in addition to supply of credit were undertaken by the societies and that if the societies confined their activities to supply of credit alone, a lesser share-capital would do."

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, in view of the fact that agricultural loans taken from credit societies by the peasants in Malabar are mainly used for growing coconuts and in view of the fact that yield is obtained only after 3 or 5 years after planting the trees, will the Government see that the period for refunding the loans is increased to three years at the minimum ? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, medium-term loans are given for a period of one to three years."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, if the report of the co-opertive societies is perused, it will be found that the societies contract credit if there is a depression and they demand the refund of loans, as in the cases when there is depression, thus cutting short the period of repayment when the people require a longer period for repayment. Is it a correct policy to be followed by these societies ? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The policy followed by the Government is based on the reports of the working of these societies, Sir."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Sir, in view of the fact that the ryots get into difficulties because they are not able to properly market their commodities, would the co-operative credit societies be authorized to advance loans on standing crops or produce ? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" A separate question may be asked, Sir."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, are the societies worked for the benefit of the poor agriculturists or are they worked for profit as banking corporations ? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, they are worked for the benefit of the people."

SRI N. RAMAKRISHNA AYYAR :—" In view of the troubles experienced, will the Government consider the desirability of converting these credit societies into marketing societies ? "

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, it is considered desirable that every rural co-operative credit society should undertake multi-purpose activities. So they are being converted into multi-purpose societies, one after another."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I am sorry, I could not be in time. My train which was due to arrive at 6 a.m. arrived only at 8 a.m. I think, Sir, you would have received the telegram sent by me from Tiruchi railway station last night."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have not received it."

Village industries training centres.

* 621 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of village industries training centres in the State;

(*b*) the number of candidates trained at each centre in 1953; and

(*c*) whether all the trained candidates were given employment by the Government?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) There are 5 village industries training centres in this State.

" (*b*)—

Name of the Institution. (1)	Number of candidates trained. (2)
1 The Tamilnad Gramsevak Vidyalayam, T. Kallupatti	55
2 Production-cum training Centres.—	
Pottery—	
1 Tellicherry	5
2 Kumbla	2
Wood-work—	
1 Kumbla	3
Blacksmithy—	
1 Kumbla	3

" (*c*) No, Sir."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Is it a fact, Sir, that in certain centres, for example, the Training Centre in South Kanara, where training is given in bangles and beads-making—I am speaking from facts that I know—Government do not know even the addresses of trainees who received stipends and completed their training in that centre and the trainees when they go to the villages are not in a position to benefit from the technical training they had received in these centres for want of finance or other help and as such, most of the amount spent on the training centre has been a waste of Government money? "